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Westminster, December 10.

HIS Majesty came this Day to the House of Peers, and being in his Royal Robes seated on the Throne with the usual Solemnity, the Honourable Sir Henry Bellenden, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons, commanding their Attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, His Majesty was pleased to give the Royal Assent to

An Act for continuing and granting to His Majesty, certain Duties upon Malt, Mum, Cyder, and Perry, for the Service of the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Six.

Whitehall, December 13.

The following Letter has been received from Abraham Castres, Esq; His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary to the King of Portugal.

SIR, Lisbon, Nov. 6, 1755.

YOU will, in all Likelihood, have heard before this, of the inexpressible Calamity befallen the whole Maritime Coast, and in particular this opulent City, now reduced to a Heap of Rubbish and Ruins, by a most tremendous Earthquake, on the 1st of this Month, followed by a Conflagration, which has done ten Times more Mischief than the Earthquake itself. I gave a short Account of our Misfortune to Sir Benjamin Keene, by a Spaniard, who promised, as all Intercourse by Post was at a Stand, to carry my Letter as far as Badajoz, and see it safe put into the Post House. It was merely to acquaint his Excellency, that, God be praised, my House stood out the Shocks, tho' greatly damaged; and that happening to be out of the Reach of the Flames, several of my Friends, burnt out of their Houses, had taken Refuge with me, where I have accommodated them, as well as I could, under Tents in my large Garden; nobody but Lord Charles Douglas, who is actually on Board the Packet, besides our Chaplain, and myself, having dared hitherto to sleep in my House, since the Day of our Disaster. The Consul and his Family have been saved, and are all well in a Country House not far from this City. Those with me at present, are the Dutch Minister, his Lady, and their three Children, with seven or eight of their Servants. The rest of my Company, of the better Sort, consists of several Merchants of this Factory, who, for the most Part, have lost all they had; though some indeed, as Messr. Purry, and Mellish's House, and Mr. Raymond, and Burrell's, have had the good Fortune to save their Cash, either in Whole, or in Part. The Number of Dead and Wounded I can give no certain Account of as yet; in that Respect our poor Factory has escaped pretty well, considering the Number of Houses we have here.

I have lost my good and worthy Friend the Spanish Ambassador, who was crushed under his Door, as he attempted to make his Escape into the Street. This, with the Anguish I have been in, for these five Days past, occasioned by the dismal Accounts brought to us every Instant, of the Accidents befallen to one or other of our Acquaintance among the Nobility, who, for the most Part, are quite undone, has greatly affected me; but, in particular, the miserable Objects among the lower Sort of His Majesty's Subjects, who all fly to me for Bread, and lie scattered up and down in my Garden, with their Wives and Children. I have helped them all hitherto, and shall continue to do so, as long as Provisions do not fail us, which I hope will not be the Case, by the good Orders M. de Carvalho has issued in that Respect. One of our great Misfortunes is, that we have neither an English or Dutch Man of War in the Harbour. Some of their Carpenters and Sailors would have been of great Use to me on this Occasion, in helping to prop up my House; for as the Weather, which has hitherto been remarkably fair, seems to threaten us with heavy Rains, it will be impossible for the Refugees in my Garden to hold it out much longer; and how to find Rooms in my House for them all, I am at a Loss to devise, the Floors of most of them shaking under our Feet, and must consequently be too weak to bear any Number of fresh Inhabitants.

The Roads for the first Days having been impracticable, it was but Yesterday I had the Honour, in Company with M. de la Calmette, of waiting upon the King of Portugal, and all the Royal Family, at Belem, whom we found encamped, none of the Royal Palaces being fit to harbour them. Though the Loss his most Faithful Majesty has sustained on this Occasion, is immense, and that his Capital City is utterly destroyed, he received us with more Serenity than we expected; and, among other Things, told us, that he owed great Thanks to Providence, for saving his and his Family's Lives; and that he was extremely glad to see us both

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both ſafe. The Queen, in her own Name, and all the young Princeſſes, ſent us Word, that they were obliged to us for our Attention, but that, being under their Tents, and in a Dreſs not fit to appear in, they deſired that, for the preſent, we would excuſe their admitting our Compliments in Perſon.

Moſt of the conſiderable Families in our Factory have already ſecured to themſelves a Paſſage to England, by three or four of our London Traders, that are preparing for their Departure. As ſoon as the Fatigue and great Trouble of Mind, I have endured for theſe firſt Days, are a little over, I ſhall be conſidering of ſome proper Method for ſheltering the poorer Sort, either by hiring a Portugueſe Hulk, or, if that is not to be had, ſome Engliſh Veſſel, till they can be ſent to England: And there are many who deſire to remain, in Hopes of finding, among the Ruins, ſome of the little Caſh they may have left in their Habitations.

The beſt Orders have been given for preventing Rapine and Murders, frequent Inſtances of which, we have had within theſe three Days, there being Swarms of Spaniſh Deſerters in Town, who take hold of this Opportunity of doing their Buſineſs. As I have large Sums depoſited in my Houſe, belonging to ſuch of my Countrymen as have been happy enough to ſave ſome of their Caſh, and that my Houſe was ſurrounded all laſt Night with Ruffians, I have this Morning wrote to M. de Carvalho to deſire a Guard, which I hope will not be refuſed.

We are to have, in a Day or two, a Meeting of our ſcattered Factory at my Houſe, to conſider of what is beſt to be done in our preſent wretched Circumſtances. I am determined to ſtay within Call of the Diſtreſſed, as long as I can remain on Shore with the leaſt Appearance of Security; and the ſame, Mr. Hay ſeemed reſolved to do, the laſt Time I conferred with him about it.

I muſt humbly beg your Pardon, Sir, for the Diſorder of this Letter, ſurrounded as I am by the many in Diſtreſs, who, from one Inſtant to the other, are applying to me, either for Advice or Shelter. The Packet has been detained, at the Deſire of the Factory, till another appears from England, or ſome Man of War drops in here from the Streights This will go by the firſt of ſeveral of our Merchant Ships bound to England. I muſt not forget to acquaint you, that Sir Harry Frankland and Lady are ſafe and well, and have the Honour to be.

St. James's, December 13.

The following Addreſs of the Mayor and Commonalty, Miniſter, and other Principal Inhabitants of the Borough of Helſtone in the County of Cornwall, has been preſented to His Majeſty: Which Addreſs His Majeſty was pleaſed to receive very graciouſly.

To the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty,

The humble Addreſs of the Mayor and Commonalty, Miniſter, and other Principal Inhabitants of the Borough of Helſtone in the County of Cornwall:

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Mayor and Commonalty, Miniſter, and other Principal Inhabitants of the Borough of Helſtone in the County of Cornwall, in Guildhall aſſembled, moſt humbly beg Leave to congratulate your Majeſty on your ſafe Return into your Britiſh Dominions; on this critical Conjuncture of Affairs, when your Majeſty's Colonies in America have been broken in upon by Invaſions of the French, and expoſed to the Calamities of War in Time of Peace, and in open Defiance of the moſt ſolemn Treaties,

Permit us to make a Tender to your Majeſty of our moſt humble Thanks, for keeping ſuch a watchful Eye upon theſe our perfidious Enemies; for purſuing ſuch wiſe and vigorous Meaſures, to vindicate the Rights of your Subjects, and the Honour of your Crown; and concluding ſuch Treaties with other Powers, that, ſo united, your Majeſty may be able to oppoſe all ambitious Invaders of any of your Territories.

May your Majeſty's Kingdoms be always ſafe and at Reſt, from Foreign Invaſion and Domeſtick Inſurrection: May all peaceful Arts flouriſh therein, without Interruption from civil Broils or Diſſentions: May true Religion thrive and proſper under your Care and Protection, and your Majeſty meet with Succeſs in all your Deſigns and Actions: May your Majeſty long reign with an abſolute Sway and without Limitation or Controul in the Affections of all your People, (the beſt and only Stability of all Empires) and after an uninterrupted Felicity in this Life, be crowned at laſt with Glory and Immortality in Heaven: But late, very late, for our Sakes at leaſt, may that be, and not (if it be God's Will) till your Majeſty have had the careful Pleaſure of initiating your Royal Grandſon and Heir, in all thoſe princely Virtues, which are ſo conſpicuous in Yourſelf; that ſo laden with Years, and weary of theſe fading Honours, and aſpiring to exchange your earthly Crown for a better, your Majeſty may reſign it into equal Hands, and to a worthy Succeſſor: And laſtly, to crown all our Wiſhes, may there never fail a Race of Proteſtants in your moſt Auguſt Family to ſway the Britiſh Sceptre as long as this World endures.

Given under our Hands and Common Seal this Third Day of December, in the Twenty-ninth Year of your Majeſty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord, One thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-five.

Conſtantinople, Nov. 2. On the 25th paſt, Aly Paſcha, the late Selichtar Aga, Paſcha of Heydin and Niſſangi, was ſuddenly depoſed of the Vizirat, after 62 Days Continuance, and the next Day his Head was cut off by the Grand Seignor's Order: He was found guilty of Venality and Extortion, which this Prince greatly deteſts, and determined him to make this publick

lick Example, to deter others from following his Steps. The Seals were immediately given to Zayde Efendi the Vizir Cheaia, and Sopazlan Achmet Efendi the Reis Efendi, was made Cheaia, and Hamza Efendi the Mechtubgee, or Secretary to the Vizir, named Reis Efendi. It is thought this Adminiſtration will give general Satisfaction. The Captain Paſcha is returned from his Cruize in the Archipelago, after having viſited the ſeveral Iſlands, as uſually practiſed, to collect the annual Contributions.

Copenhagen, Nov. 29. Laſt Thurſday, the 27th Inſtant, his Daniſh Majeſty returned hither from Jagersburg, having put an End to the Stag-hunting for this Year. The Day following having been the Anniverſary of the Queen Dowager's Birth Day, who is now entred upon her 56th Year, it was celebrated as uſual, and the Evening concluded with a ſplendid Supper and Ball at Court.

Dreſden, Nov. 30. On Tueſday laſt, the 25th Inſtant, a Courier arrived from Paris with the News of Madame la Dauphine being brought to Bed of a Prince. Yeſterday, about Four of the Clock in the Afternoon, their Poliſh Majeſties, and the Princes Xaverius and Charles, returned hither from Hubertsburgh. The Commiſſaries of this Court are returned to Halle, where the Conferences, about Commercial Affairs, will be opened To-morrow the 1ſt of December.

Bruſſels, Dec. 2. The Number of French Troops upon our Frontiers at preſent is computed at Fourſcore Battalions, and about Forty Squadrons. The Orders for augmenting their Militia and Cavalry are not yet given out, tho' daily expected. On Saturday and Sunday laſt Eighteen Veſſels arrived here from Holland, with a conſiderable Number of Cannon and Mortars, and a large Quantity of Gunpowder and all Sorts of Military Stores, which are now tranſporting to Namur. M. d'Affry has not yet paſſed through this Place in his Way to Holland.

Admiralty-Office, Dec. 9, 1755.

PUrſuant to an Act of Parliament paſſed in the 26th Year of His preſent Majeſty's Reign, this is to give Notice to the Concerned, That Information hath been ſent to this Office, that a Sloop called the Good Intent of Goſport, whereof Richard Field was Maſter, Burthen 50 Tons, laden with Fruit from Malaga to London, was, on the 24th of laſt Month, drove on Shore in a violent Storm of Wind, about half a Mile to the Eaſtward of Cuckmore, near the Town and Port of Seaford in the County of Suſſex, but the greateſt Part of the Cargoe is ſaved.

J. Clevland.

Navy Office, December 4, 1755.

The Principal Officers and Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Navy give Notice, That there is in the Hands of the Treaſurer of the Navy, Money to pay off all Bills regiſter'd on the Courſe of the Navy in the Month of June 1755, *in order that the Proprietors of, or ſuch Perſons as are legally impower'd to receive the ſaid Bills, may bring them to this Office to be aſſigned for Payment accordingly.*

Office of Ordnance, Tower of London;
Nov. 13, 1755.

The Principal Officers of his Majeſty's Ordnance do hereby give Notice, that whoſoever will diſcover to them any Fire Arms concealed in any Part of Great Britain, ſo as the ſame may be properly ſecured till his Majeſty's Pleaſure ſhall be known therein, the Name or Names of the Perſon or Perſons who ſhall make ſuch Diſcovery ſhall be concealed, if required, and he or they ſhall receive, as a Reward for the ſame, after the Rate of Twenty Five Pounds for every 100 *Arms, and ſo in Proportion be the Number more or leſs.*

By Order of the Board,
William Bogdani.

Eaſt India Houſe, London, Nov. 19, 1755.

The Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, do hereby give Notice, That the Transfer Books for the Eaſt India Annuities at 3 ½ *per Cent. will be ſhut on Monday the* 15*th of December, and for the Annuities at* 3 *per Cent. on Tueſday the* 16*th of December, in order to aſcertain the reſpective Sums ſtanding in the Names of the Annuitants, in Conformity to the Act of Parliament of the* 23*d of His preſent Majeſty, which directs that the Intereſt of the Annuities at* 3 ½ *per Cent. per Annum ſhould determine and ceaſe at Chriſtmas* 1755, *and from that Time ſhould commence at* 3 *per Cent. per Ann. the Transfer Books for which will be opened on the* 15*th of January next.*

And they further give Notice, that Warrants for 2 *s.* 6 *d. per Cent. on the* 3 ½ *per Cent. Annuities (being the Difference between* 3 *per Cent. and* 3 ½ *per Cent. Annuities for the Quarter due at Chriſtmas next Old Stile) will be made out to the Proprietors thereof, and be delivered and paid the* 29*th of January next.*

N. B. The Transfer Days for the Stock will be on Tueſday, Thurſday and Saturday; and Annuities on Monday, Wedneſday and Friday.

Victualling-Office, December 8, 1755.

The Commiſſioners for Victualling his Majeſty's Navy do hereby give Notice, that on Monday the 29*th Inſtant, exactly at Twelve o'Clock at Noon, they ſhall be ready to Treat for Hogs, for Sea Store, for the Port of London, for the Service of His Majeſty's Navy, to commence Killing from the* 31*ſt Inſtant, and the Hogs not to Weigh leſs than Eighty-four Pounds each Carcaſs.*

Victualling-Office, December 10, 1755.

The Commiſſioners for Victualling his Majeſty's Navy give Notice, that on Wedneſday next the 17*th Inſtant, exactly at Twelve o'Clock at Noon, they will be ready to receive Propoſals from ſuch Perſons as are inclinable to furniſh Oxen for Sea Store, for the Port of London, for the Service of His Majeſty's Navy.*

Victualling-Office, December 12, 1755.

The Commiſſioners for Victualling his Majeſty's Navy do hereby give Notice, that on Monday the 29*th Inſtant, exactly at Twelve o'Clock at Noon, they will be ready to receive Propoſals from ſuch Perſons as are inclinable to furniſh Oxen and Hogs for Sea Store, at the Ports of Portſmouth and Plymouth; and alſo Oxen for Sea Store, for the Port of Dover, for the Service of his Majeſty's Navy.*

Trinity-Houſe, London, December 6, 1755.

Whereas a certain Information is received, that a Fire has happen'd at the Edyſtone Lighthouſe, which has greatly damaged the ſame, and prevented the Exhibition of the Light therein; Notice is hereby given, that a further Advertiſement concerning the ſame will be given, when a more particular Account is received.

Cuſtom-